



EXALT

EQUIP

ENGAGE

Sunday Worship
Worship: 10 a.m. (in person or
www.woodlandpresbyterian.org)

756 Park Street
Woodland, WA 98674
360-225-8941



WOODLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2024

Happenings



✠ From the Pastor's Desk ✠

BE OUR GUEST

“We have guests coming over!” When I was a child, I dreaded those words. It meant that mom would be on the rampage, cleaning, vacuuming, and making us boys do a lot of chores that garnered very little in return (from a kid’s perspective). We had to be on our very best behavior and act as if we were a loving family ripped right out of the pages of a “Leave It to Beaver” episode. But once our guests were gone, my brother and I could go back to our normal routine of teasing and fighting with one another!

We have guests coming to church on September 8th – at least that is what we’ve been praying and planning for over this past month. I hope I haven’t been communicating a similar message these past few weeks – “you better behave during the picnic until the last of our guests have departed.” If that is what you’ve picked up from me, please disavow any thought of ‘play acting.’ I am excited because the Lord has blessed us with a very special church family, and I want to invite people into our midst to

meet the Lord and His people here at Woodland Presbyterian. The goal is to be ourselves – or better yet – be the people and family that God has made us. No false pretense, no fake smiles, and please, no excessive dousing of cologne!

One author, Lee Eclov, puts it this way: *When visitors come to our church, it is dangerously tempting to think of them as means to an end—the goal being the growth of our church. I recall a visiting Navy seaman from Great Lakes Naval Base near us, telling me how he’d gone to other churches, but when they found out he would only be around a few months, they didn’t pay much attention to him. Don’t welcome guests into our church family so that our church can grow. Welcome them because we want to love them.* (Eclov, Lee. *Feels Like Home: How Rediscovering the Church as Family Changes Everything* (p. 99), Moody Publishers).

In our “Growing Young” discussion last week, the focus was on “Being the Best Neighbor.” One of the speakers in the video made this comment when reaching out to those who

are not involved in a church: “We don’t view them as our ‘issue’ or ‘special cause’ – this is a family matter.” I appreciated that comment; because, so often, this is the way we look at those outside the church that we want to see come to faith in Jesus – they become our little “project.” That is very dehumanizing and certainly not Christlike, though it may be well-intentioned.

So then, what shall we do? The Apostle Paul gives us good instruction of how to act when guests come to visit: “But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or outsider enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all, the secrets of his heart are disclosed, and so, falling on his face, he will worship God and declare that God is really among you.” (1 Corinthians 14:24-25, ESV). If ‘prophecy’ here is referring to the proclamation of God’s Word (and a good case can be made that this is exactly the kind of prophecy to which Paul is referring), then we have a clue as to how to welcome our guests – by declaring and living out God’s Word in our fellowship. Again,

...Continued on page 2...

...continued from the Pastor's Desk...

Paul, this time, in Colossians 3:16, says, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." In other words, we are not putting on a show for our guests to impress them. Let our guests instead be impressed with the authentic love that is generated by God's Spirit.

What can we do to prepare for our church service and picnic on September 8th? Pray daily "for these two specific needs: (1) that all who come to the service would sense that "God is really among you," and (2) that it would be evident that these believers (our church family) love one another and we love our guests. (Eclov, Feels Like Home, p. 103). Yes, guests are coming! So, shine for Christ.

In God's Grace, Pastor Kevin 

A Big THANK-YOU to all who participated in this year's **Rummage Sale!** From all the wonderful donations, to the set-up crew, sales volunteers, and clean-up team, Great Job!

It was a very successful event, and all your help was very appreciated!
WPC Fellowship Team

Collecting Shoebox Items



- January**-Hats, Gloves, Scarves
- February**-Accessories (sunglasses, watches, hair items, jewelry)
- March**-Quality Crafts (pillow cases, tote bags...)
- April**-Stuffed animals
- May**-Hygiene items (washcloths, soap, toothbrushes, comb, hairbrush, deodorant)
- June**-Toys
- July**-Clothing items (socks, shoes, t-shirts, dresses...)
- August**-School supplies
- September**-Games
- October**-Letter & photo
- November**-\$9 Donation for postage
- December**-Prayer

All-Church Picnic



Sunday, September 8, 11:30 a.m.
in the Fellowship Hall

Following 10 a.m. Worship Service.
Come and join us for this Patriotic Party/
Barbeque/Friendship Sunday, with all the trimmings, plus games!
Pick up a cute 'koozie' at the table in the Narthex that has a picnic invitation inside, to invite friends.

Samaritan's Purse

Operation Christmas Child

Samaritan's Purse is a non-denominational evangelical Christian International Relief organization based in Boone, North Carolina. It provides spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world.

Since 1970, Samaritan's Purse has helped meet the needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ.

The Organization serves the church worldwide to promote the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. We participate every year with filling shoeboxes with gifts.

Every gift-filled shoebox is a tool for evangelism and discipleship for a local church around the world. At Operation Christmas Child outreach events, boys and girls hear the Good News of the Lord Jesus Christ and receive a tangible expression of God's love through one of your prayerfully packed shoeboxes.

I'd encourage you to include a letter and photo along with your gift, as these often become cherished items for the child.

Samaritan's Purse also offers shoebox recipients their follow-up discipleship program, "The Greatest Journey." Through trained local teachers, boys and girls learn to follow Jesus and share Him with friends and family.

If you would like to help with this or would like more information, please see Juanita MacMahon.



SEPTEMBER 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 10:00 a.m. Worship Service <i>Communion</i>	2 OFFICE CLOSED 	3 7:00 p.m. Vision Team	4 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	5 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	6 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class 10 a.m. Fellowship Committee Mtg	7 11:00 a.m. Prayer Walk 3:30 p.m. Worship Mtg
8 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 11:30 a.m. All-Church Picnic	9 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	10 7:00 p.m. Session & Deacons Mtgs	11 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	12 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	13 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	14 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Crafts
15 9:00 a.m. Adult S.S. 10:00 a.m. Worship Service	16 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class ...	17	18 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	19 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	20 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	21
22 9:00 a.m. Adult S.S. 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 	23 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	24 7:00 p.m. OT Mtg	25 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	26 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	27 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class	28 10:00 a.m. Hearts & Crafts 11:00 a.m. Memorial Service for Betty Bottemiller
29 9:00 a.m. Adult S.S. 10:00 a.m. Worship Service <i>(Gratitude Bag Sunday)</i>	30 10:00 a.m. S.A.I.L. Class					

Financial Report: Operating Budget

<u>APRIL</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Beginning Balance	15,830.01	18,771.19
Receipts	19,559.01	47,837.00
Disbursements	<u>20,261.07</u>	<u>24,945.10</u>
Ending Balance	15,127.95	41,663.09
Year to Date		
Beginning Balance	-	-
Receipts	99,617.73	131,462.60
Disbursements	<u>84,489.78</u>	<u>89,799.51</u>
Ending Balance	15,127.95	41,663.09

Financial Report: Invested Funds

<u>APRIL</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Beginning Balance	205,135.64	256,700.86
Receipts	19,016.41	6,999.41
Disbursements	<u>59,212.05</u>	<u>5,013.71</u>
Ending Balance	164,940.00	258,686.56
Year to Date		
Beginning Balance	237,352.89	221,033.00
Receipts	22,685.62	52,980.32
Disbursements	<u>95,098.51</u>	<u>15,326.76</u>
Ending Balance	164,940.00	258,686.56
NET FUNDS	180,067.95	300,349.65

Shining Star BAZAAR

WPC Shining Star Bazaar

Saturday, November 23

The date is set! WPC is going to have tables to sell handmade items, made by YOU again this year! Making items for the bazaar is a great way to unleash your creativity and bring joy to others!

Whatever you enjoy crafting and would like to share, we would love to accept for our bazaar. Now is the perfect time to get started!

Questions? Just ask your Fellowship Team!

September Prayer Families



Week of...

- September 1 Betsy Lessard
Melinda McTaggart
- September 8 Richard Licata
Rick May
- September 15 Richard & Laura Long family
Tom Mattison
- September 22 Julie Lyon and family
Deana MacPherson
- September 29 Juanita MacMahon
Sandy Wyzanowski



September Sermons

- 1 – *Hope for Our Future*, 2 Corinthians 4:7-18
- 8 – *Hope is Here*, Hebrews 6:13-20
- 15 – *Who is He and Why is He Here?*, Mark 1:1-8
- 22 – *Impeccable Credentials*, Mark 1:9-15
- 29 – *Calling in and Calling Out*, Mark 1:16-28



September Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 1 Cindy Wallace
- 7 Dale Hanley
- 18 Darin & Sally Hager
- 19 Jessica Ferguson
- 19 Sandy Wyzanowski

The people listed in the Birthday and Anniversary list are members of WPC

Deacons Fund

The Deacons Fund is used to help church members and community members with one time or ongoing expenses that they are having trouble meeting financially. Each month, we give out at least a \$1250 a month to those in need. In order to keep meeting those needs, we are reminding you of our Deacons Fund and asking if you are able to do so, to consider making a donation to the deacons fund on our Communion Sunday.

Thank you.



From...Carolyn Ford, Missionary

From her August 2024 Letter...

“... for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, God’s holy nation, God’s very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.” 1 Peter 2: 9 (NLT)

As I was reading this in the context of the whole chapter, it struck me that all who have genuinely put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ are one nation under God – without geographical or political borders – no wrong side of the tracks, no caste system, God’s very own possession! That thrills me.

Jesus said, “There is more than enough room in my Father’s home” (John 14:2). I think we are overly influenced by the King James wording: “In my Father’s house are many mansions.” We tend to imagine that each of us will live in a separate mansion with a big fenced yard. No! The Father’s house is one house. There are no fences or dividing walls to separate us. I know, because Jesus said in the next verse, “... you will always be with me where I am.” The “you” is plural in the original text. We won’t need dividing walls, because there is no shame, nothing to hide; there are no secrets, no fears, no “discomfort zones.” If we are going to live together like that for eternity, can’t we try a little harder to live in love, acceptance, and forgiveness here on earth? We may disagree about politics, lifestyles, and the application of Scripture to certain practices; but, do we need to exclude one another from fellowship over such differences? May God give us grace to focus on what matters – His Word, His Kingdom, His glory, His power, and goodness. May we keep our eyes on Jesus and run with endurance the race set before us, encouraging each other every step of the way. Then those who don’t yet trust in Jesus will know that we are His followers because of our love for one another.

Ethnic conflict and high inflation continue to make life challenging for many in Ethiopia. ***Please ask our Father to bring reconciliation, peace, and daily bread. Pray for courage and protection for those who faithfully minister to spread the Good News about Jesus Christ.***

Faith Comes by Hearing has trained a team in Wycliffe-Ethiopia to record Scriptures for audio use. The team is now recording the Zay New Testament and will record the Tsara New Testament next. ***Please pray that the best readers will be chosen for this task.***

Praise God that I am now into 2015 with drafting my memoirs. Please continue to pray for perseverance and enabling in this endeavor. I want to “tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the LORD” (Psalm 78:4).

With Gratitude,

Carolyn Ford

1218 Dahomey St
Sebring, FL 33875
863-658-6915

carolyn.ford@sim.org
www.carolynford.org

To support my ongoing ministry, give online at: simusa.org/give/ Type my name into the box marked “Select Designation,” click on Carolyn Ford – **Ministry**. OR send a check made payable to SIM USA with designation “for Carolyn Ford – **Ministry** Account #19489” to: SIM USA; 14830 Choate Circle; Charlotte NC 28273

Cannon Beach Fall Women's Conference

OCTOBER 4 6, 2024

This will be a fun-filled weekend of rich fellowship, inspiring biblical teaching, and relaxing on the beach, and includes 2 nights, 2 dinners, 2 breakfasts, and registration. The cost is \$250.

Speaker: Brooke Andrews

Brooke has collaborated on Bible study curriculum and devotionals, is on staff at The River Church of South Bay, and teaches at Biola University.

For more information and registration, see Martha Swanstrum.



WOODLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (EPC)

**PO BOX 297 / 756 Park Street
Woodland, WA 98674**

360-225-8941

office@woodlandpresbyterian.org

www.woodlandpresbyterian.org



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED